

trust the plan

all
things
new

December 11, 2022

All Things New • Luke 2:1-7 • Message 3

AT RESTAURANTS, DO YOU ORDER THE SAME THING? • SAME PROMISE, NEW EVERYTHING ELSE • ABRAHAM, MOSES, DAVID, PROPHETS • CHALLENGE OF CHRISTMAS • TRAGICALLY NEW • MARY

I will hold onto the promise as I welcome the changes

... as outlined by Jesus.

NEW THING, NEW LOCATION, NUMBERS 14:1-4

journey to bethlehem

LUKE 2:1-5 • DOESN'T SOUND LIKE GOD RIGHT? • CENSUS, DAVID! • 1 CHRONICLES 21:1-3

- ✦ Jews thought taking a **CENSUS** was **WRONG**.
 - ✦ The census was ordered by a **PAGAN GOVERNMENT**.
 - ✦ The census would take resources from **GOD'S PEOPLE**.
 - ✦ This was an **INCONVENIENT** time for Mary.
- EVIL GOVERNMENT, DIFFICULT THING, WRONG THING, LIMITING GOD • CAN'T BE GOD, RIGHT?
MATTHEW 2:4-6 • SUBMIT TO GOVERNMENT = FULFILL MESSIAH PROPHECY!!

God used **SECULAR** authority and **SUBMISSION** of

his people to accomplish an **ETERNAL** purpose!

GOD IS IN CHARGE • ILL: HYPOTHETICAL 2020 • GRATEFUL FOR YOU, PROUD OF YOU
DISOWN JESUS? THAT'S A STEP TOO FAR, BECAUSE

I will hold onto the promise as I welcome the changes as outlined by Jesus.

secondary aside on traditional myths

LAST CHRISTMAS TO SAY THESE THINGS TO YOU • TRADITIONAL STORY • NOT BIBLICAL • 4-7 • BORING

Where do our myths come from?

- ✦ KJV translation has some problems.
- ✦ Our modern ideas don't represent ancient reality.
- ✦ We really want the story to be more heroic.

TIMING OF BIRTH: LUKE 2:5 ALL • LODGING: 6-7 • LACK OF URGENCY • LUKE 2:7 ALL • LUKE 22:10-11
NIV COURAGE • ILL: "INNS" IN THE ANCIENT WORLD

Ancient Story Context

- ✦ Roman census was **every 5 years**, and wouldn't have been quick.
- ✦ **All** Jews in Nazareth would have hometowns south in Judea.
- ✦ Both Mary and Joseph would have had **relatives** in Bethlehem.
- ✦ Ancient peasant houses kept animals **inside**.

What's the point?

- ✦ Be a Bible person. Not a Bible story person.
- ✦ Be open to new ideas and willing to change your mind.
- ✦ Be willing to speak the truth without being obnoxious (NIV).

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News & Events at LCC and in our Community!

Lafayette Community Church exists to simply help people follow Jesus.

We're so glad you have found us. Our whole aim is to help you follow Jesus. We do what we do because we believe God has called us to be a blessing to others, helping make their life better because of the love of Christ. We want to help you no matter where you are on your spiritual journey.

Christmas Eve, Saturday December 24, 6pm

We are totally excited to celebrate Christmas Eve with you all. We'll have a story for the kids, candy canes, hot chocolate, thousands of marshmallows, and a Christmas Cookie bonanza. Please make a point to be here in person if possible and bring some cookies to share if you can.

Christmas Day Streaming Worship

Early Christmas Day we will post a "livestream" video to YouTube and Facebook complete with Christmas carols and a brief lesson from Pastor Jeff.

Volunteer Opportunities

We know that many of you are new around here, and we want to help you find ways to plug in and get involved. Here are just a few of the volunteer opportunities available to you these days (we always offer training):

Our **Tech Team** does audio/video/lighting on Sundays and manages apps, websites, and more during the week.

Our **Connections Team** handles our lobby hospitality including running the coffee bar, greeting people at the doors, and managing Kidopolis Registration.

Our **Kidopolis Team** handles our Sunday Kidopolis program. We need teachers, helpers, and administrative people too.

Our **Worship Team** manages our Sunday music. If you are musical, or if you want to lend administrative help, we'd love to have you.

Our **Cleaning Team** keeps the building spic and span!

Fusion Youth: 5:15-7pm • December at LCC

Fusion Youth is taking the week off, but we will resume next Sunday right here at LCC and for the month of December!

Small Groups

We have a number of small groups currently running:

Sundays, 5:30pm. Contact Matt (570-556-6753) or Dani (570-490-4572) Bastian.

Wednesday, 7:00pm. Multi-church, multi-racial adult Bible Study **meeting here at LCC this week.** Contact Pastor Jeff (765-404-0807) or join by Zoom with this link: <https://lafayettecc.org/go/zoom-foster>

Please download our mobile app to stay up to date with us electronically.

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